

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 10, 11 and 13 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 10, 11 and 13.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the title, the specification and figures 10, 11 and 13 are amended to correct informalities. Claims 8-16 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in one or more continuing applications. No new matter is added.

The cancellation of claims 8-16 has resulted in fewer than all of the current named inventors being the actual inventors of the remaining claimed subject matter in this application. Therefore, correction of inventorship is requested by deleting Tetsushi Nomoto as a named inventor of this application. The Examiner is requested to enter the Amendment of Inventorship filed herewith.

The Office Action objects to figures 10, 11 and 13 for informalities. Figs. 10, 11 and 13 are amended as suggested by the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The Office Action objects to the title of the application. The amended title overcomes the rejection. Withdrawal of the objection to the title is requested.

The Office Action objects to the specification for informalities. The specification is amended to correct the informalities identified by the Office Action, in addition to additional informalities. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Higuchi et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0008424) (Higuchi) and rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Higuchi in view of Niikawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,710,809). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest the combination of features recited by independent claim 1. Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest a power system in which a work volume value indicating a volume of work that the apparatus main body has been engaged in is transmitted

from the apparatus main body to the battery unit over a predetermined cycle, as recited by independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's allegation that the residual battery capacity of Higuchi corresponds to the claimed work volume value. Higuchi discloses that the residual battery capacity is the remaining capacity of a battery at a given point, not a value indicating a volume of work that the apparatus main body has been engaged in, as recited by independent claim 1. Further, Higuchi discloses that the battery pack 1 outputs residual battery capacity. See Higuchi, paragraph [0029], lines 1-6. Thus, Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest that a work volume value indicating a volume of work that the apparatus main body has been engaged in is transmitted from the apparatus main body to the battery unit over a predetermined cycle, as recited by independent claim 1.

Moreover, Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest a battery unit that calculates a cumulative work volume value of the work volume at the apparatus main body and that stores the cumulative work volume value therein, and the battery unit also detects a consumed battery capacity value indicating an extent to which a battery power has been consumed at the apparatus main body, as recited by independent claim 1. Higuchi discloses transmitting from the battery unit to a video camera a residual battery capacity. The camera's calculation unit in turn determines residual time of the video camera. Higuchi is silent regarding anything like the claimed work volume value, and therefore is silent regarding calculating a cumulative work volume value.

Additionally, Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest that the cumulative work volume value, the consumed battery capacity value and a charged battery capacity value are transmitted from the battery unit to the apparatus main body over the predetermined cycle, as recited by independent claim 1. Higuchi discloses transmitting a residual battery capacity, the charging/discharging current detection information and the battery cell voltage detection information from the battery unit to the video camera.

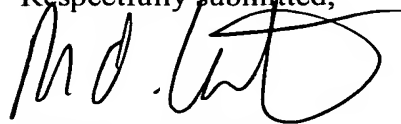
Higuchi also fails to disclose or suggest an apparatus main body that displays a battery use rate indicating an extent to which the battery has been used based upon the consumed battery capacity value and the charged battery capacity value, and that also displays the cumulative work volume value at the apparatus main body, as recited by independent claim 1. Higuchi discloses displaying residual battery time and level. See Higuchi paragraph [0035]. Higuchi is silent regarding displaying a battery use rate. Higuchi fails to disclose or suggest calculating such a rate, and therefore fails to disclose or suggest basing a battery use rate upon the consumed battery capacity value and the charged battery capacity value. Further, as discussed above, Higuchi is silent regarding a cumulative work volume value, and therefore fails to disclose or suggest displaying such a value.

At least for these reasons, independent claim 1 is patentable over Higuchi. Niikawa fails to cure the deficiencies of Higuchi, and therefore independent claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Higuchi and Niikawa. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1, and therefore also are patentable over Higuchi and Niikawa for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:MEM

Attachments:

Replacement Drawing Sheets (3)
Petition for Extension of Time
Amendment of Inventorship

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